

HOUSE BILL 1859

By Crawford

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,
Chapter 14, Part 2, relative to shelter for dogs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-202(a), is amended by
deleting subdivision (2) and substituting:

(2)

(A) Fails unreasonably to provide necessary food, water, or care for an
animal in the person's custody; or

(B)

(i) Fails unreasonably to provide necessary shelter for an animal
other than a dog in the person's custody; or

(ii)

(a) Fails unreasonably to provide shelter in a structure that
meets the following requirements for a dog in the person's
custody:

(1) The structure must be four-sided and ventilated
with an entrance on one (1) side, a roof, and a solid floor
that is in good repair and allows the dog to remain
reasonably dry and maintain normal body temperature;

(2) The dimensions of the entrance and structure
must allow each dog present to enter, stand, turn around,
and lie down in a natural manner, whether in the same

structure or by providing multiple structures, and protect the dog from adverse weather and direct sunlight; and

(3) During cold weather, the structure must contain bedding material that is sufficient to promote the retention of body heat and during summer months a separate natural or artificial shaded area must be available outside the structure and accessible by the dog; and

(b) The requirements in subdivision (a)(2)(b)(ii)(a) do not apply to the space under buildings, decks, steps, or open crates and carriers designed for temporary housing unless modified to meet the requirements of subdivision (a)(2)(b)(ii)(a), including allowing the dog to retain normal body temperature;

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.